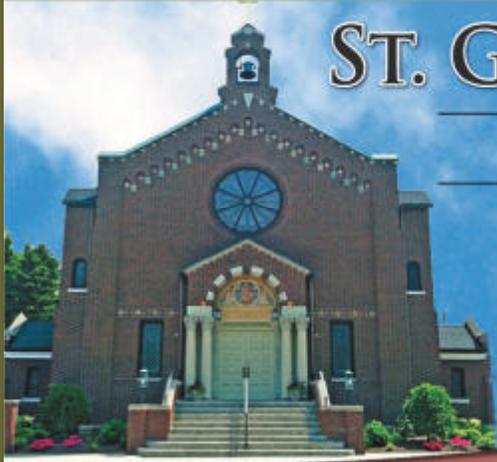


48 SOUTH PEARL STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428

# ST. GREGORY THAUMATURGUS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH OFFICE: 136 W. MAIN ST. • NORTH EAST, PA 16428

Parish Office Phone: 814-725-9691 • Fax: 814-725-1225

Website: [www.stgregoryparish.info](http://www.stgregoryparish.info) • Email: [stgregs@roadrunner.com](mailto:stgregs@roadrunner.com)

School Phone: 814-725-4571 • Cemetery Phone: 814-725-9691

OFFICE HOURS: Monday–Thursday: 9AM–3PM; Friday: 9AM–Noon

## MASS SCHEDULE

### Winter

Saturday.....5:00 PM  
Sunday....7:30, 9:00 & Noon

### Weekday

Mon., Tues. Wed. & Fri.: 8:00 AM  
at St. Gregory Church  
Thursday....12:10 PM at St. Gregory  
Church

*Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion  
following the 8:00 AM Mass on  
Wednesday*

## STAFF

*Pastor, Rev. Thomas Brooks*

*Permanent Deacon,  
Rev. Mr. Richard Winschel,*

*Pastoral Minister, Cindy Riefstahl*

*Faith Formation Leader, Jennifer Humes*

*Administrative Assistant, Patti Prindle*

*Director of Sacred Music, Corey Spacht*

*School Principal Team: Ms. Allissa  
Bowman, Mrs. Amy Kloss, Ms. Nancy  
Pierce*



St. Gregory  
Thaumaturgus,  
Wonder-Worker,  
inspire us to a  
more lively faith,  
hope and charity  
through prayer,  
love for God and  
generous service  
to God's people.  
Amen!

## MARCH 28, 2021



## PALM SUNDAY

So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. - Mk 11:7-8

*A Welcoming Family Of Faith  
In The Heart Of  
North East, Pennsylvania*



*Celebrating Our 145th Anniversary  
As A Parish Family And The  
95th Anniversary Of Our Church*

#### SACRAMENT INFORMATION

**Baptism** – A baptism preparation session is required of all parents wishing to have their child(ren) baptized. Parents must pre-register for the session. Baptisms are celebrated during Mass, following the last Mass on Sunday, or by special arrangement. Please schedule by calling the Parish Office.

**First Reconciliation/Eucharist** – Children entering the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades and who are active in the Faith Formation process (including St. Gregory Parish School children) are eligible to enter the sacramental preparation sessions. Sacraments are celebrated in late winter and spring.

**Confirmation** – High School youth who are entering the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and who are active in the Faith Formation process or attend a Catholic High School are eligible to enter the Confirmation preparation program. Sessions begin in the fall and Confirmation is celebrated in the spring.

**Matrimony** – Call the Parish Office at least 6 months prior to the anticipated wedding date. Church date and arrangements should precede all other wedding plans.

**Anointing of the Sick** – The Sacrament is available to all those who are seriously ill or advanced in age. Please call the Parish Office to request a visit by the priest.

**Reconciliation** – The sacrament is celebrated weekly on Saturday from 4:00 – 4:30 PM, or by request. There are two multi-parish celebrations during Advent and Lent.

#### PARISHIONER INFORMATION

We are a welcoming Family of Faith who rejoice in God's many blessings! All members of the Parish receive envelopes and parish mailings. St. Gregory Parish is a Sacrificial Giving Parish, committed to serving the Lord through use of God-given time, talent and treasure. Please use the membership form in the bulletin or visit the Parish Office to register.

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children ages 4-10 are invited to participate in a special Liturgy of the Word during the 9:00 AM Sunday Mass.

#### BULLETIN INFORMATION

Groups or individuals wishing to have information published in the bulletin are asked to submit the information in writing, by e-mail or by phone call by Monday at 1:00 PM.

#### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Interested in the Catholic Faith? Desire to receive the Sacraments you missed like Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation? The R.C.I.A. process is meant for you! Please call the Parish Office for more information.

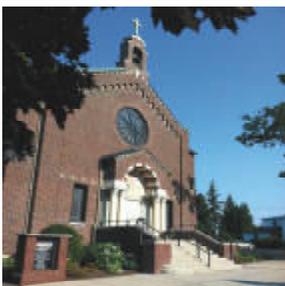
#### PRAYER LINE

Add your request for prayer by calling Rosemary Repko at 814-602-6271

#### THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

Including the office for The Protection Of Children and Youth  
<http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

### *Saint Gregory Thaumaturgus Parish At A Glance...*



**St. Gregory Church**  
48 South Pearl St. 814-725-9691  
Pastor, Rev. Thomas Brooks

Permanent Deacon,  
Rev. Mr. Richard Winschel



**St. Gregory Parish Office  
and Our Mother of  
Perpetual Help Chapel**  
136 W. Main St.  
814-725-9691  
Fax 814-725-1225  
[www.stgregoryparish.info](http://www.stgregoryparish.info)  
[stgregs@roadrunner.com](mailto:stgregs@roadrunner.com)



**St. Gregory Parish School**  
140 W. Main St.  
814-725-4571  
Fax 814-725-4572  
[gregory1@stgregs.net](mailto:gregory1@stgregs.net)  
[www.stgregs.net](http://www.stgregs.net)



**St. Gregory Cemetery**  
West Main St. & Brickyard Rd  
814-725-9691

Dear Members and Friends of the St. Gregory Parish Family,

As we begin the celebration of the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, we are attentive to St. Mark's recollection of Jesus' triumphal entry into the City of Jerusalem. What are the people crying out as Jesus makes His way? They are joyfully shouting: "*Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!*" The word, "*Hosanna*," actually means "*to save*," or "*savior*;" and no doubt the use of that word reflects the people's collective hope that Jesus will be the promised Messiah who will deliver them from the oppression they are experiencing under Roman rule. Their palm waving procession is one filled with optimism and hope!

The second Gospel passage that we share in today is also taken from St. Mark, but what a difference! When Pontius Pilate asks the crowd what they want him to do with the man called "*the king of the Jews*," the people shout out: "*Crucify him!*" When asked the question, "*Why?*," they only shout out all the louder: "*Crucify him!*" So, wishing to appease the crowd, a new procession begins – one that leads to Calvary Hill!

This is the paradox of our celebration this weekend, isn't it friends? That the joy associated with "*Palm Sunday*" evolves into the sadness of "*Passion Sunday*," and all of those events connected to Jesus' death on the cross. Perhaps, like myself, you've asked how this could happen? How the same people, who first envisioned Jesus as their forthcoming king, could turn into an angry mob who wanted to eliminate him?

Clearly, my friends, the people did not understand what the words "*to save*" or "*savior*" really meant. In their minds, having a "*king*" meant power, a palace, wealth, and an army at your disposal. It meant keeping your enemies at bay, freedom from foreign rule, and providing a temporal environment of peace and security. The "*kingship*" that Jesus promised meant something quite different. Jesus' "*kingship*" was one of love and service, freedom from sin, and a focus on the promise of the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus' message was one that reminded His followers of the eternal joy that awaits them rather than the fleeting joys of life here.

I would invite you, my brothers and sisters, to keep our Lenten focus of Jesus as "*The Light*" in mind and heart as we begin this Holy Week 2021 together. We all experience the "*Palm Sundays*" that St. Mark so clearly describes. The palms we take home today clearly remind us of these joyful occasions in our lives. Likewise, we also carry "*crosses*," experience the "*Passion*" as part of our journey through this life here. They include all of the sufferings, disappointments, heartaches and loss that are part of the human condition. None of us are exempt from them or their effects. Our blessed palms remind us of this reality as well.

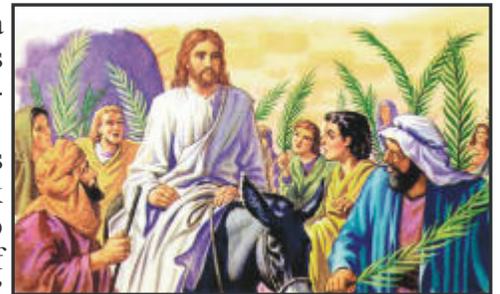
With that in mind, the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord provides us the opportunity to revisit God's promise to us and the thought behind our Lent here at St. Gregory: "*There is a light at the end of the tunnel.*" And, truly, that Light is Jesus! The invitation that comes with Holy Week is to make those words of the Gospel of St. Mark our own as we cry out, "*Hosanna!*," and let the bright promise of eternal salvation triumph over the negative experiences, thoughts and feeling that can come and darken our way.

"*Hosanna*" – You are the Light of the World!

"*Hosanna*" – You are our Savior!

"*Hosanna*" – You are the One before us to lead us, behind us to encourage us, and beside us as Friend and constant Companion!

May God bless us, one and all, as we join together in celebrating these most sacred days that remind us of our destiny!



*Fr. Tom*

### St. Gregory Cemetery:

All winter wreaths and Christmas decorations must be removed from the gravesites by Friday, April 2nd in preparation for the Spring Season.



Please remember to turn in your Rice Bowls during Holy Week. There will be a receptacle available near the Blessed Mother Shrine in Church. Remember that one-half of the money collected remains in North East for the benefit of the Food Pantry. Many people depend on this annual gift, so please be as generous as you can. Thank you!

## Confirmation Class of 2021

### Confirmand

*Margaret Becker*  
*Amy Bohrer*  
*Nathan DeGilio*  
*Samantha Ferrick*  
*Gracie Girts*  
*Grant Girts*  
*Ryan Hathaway*  
*Sydney Hawkins*  
*Madison Hess*  
*Reanna Huggler*  
*Ella Kloss*  
*Matthew Komorowski*  
*Allyson Lutz*  
*Dominick Maas*  
*Laura Myers*  
*Anthony Neff*  
*Andrew Nishnick*  
*Samantha Post*  
*Aidan Reinsel*  
*Lauren Schneider*  
*Ellise Sebolt*  
*Jayne Seth*  
*Cael Turri*  
*Aidan VanTassell*

### Patron Saint

*Gertrude*  
*Elizabeth*  
*Michael*  
*Catherine*  
*Christina*  
*Michael*  
*Bernard*  
*Francis DeSales*  
*Philomena*  
*Marie*  
*Elizabeth*  
*Matthew*  
*Gianna*  
*Michael*  
*Flora*  
*Anthony*  
*Albert*  
*Francis*  
*Francis*  
*Therese*  
*Catherine*  
*Adelaide*  
*Richard*  
*Hubert*

### Sponsor

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*Emalie Nagle*  
*Julie Bukowski*  
*Julie Wilson*  
*Judy Hess*  
*Lance Pollack*  
*Gabe Gallagher*  
*Wendy Hawkins*  
*Mary Whelan*  
*Mark Lockhart*  
*Denise Courtwright*  
*Maria Komorowski*  
*Ashleigh Lutz*  
*Ann Maas*  
*Laura Lockhart*  
*Franca Mina*  
*Zachary Nishnick*  
*Patricia Post*  
*Kerry Reinsel*  
*Marcy White*  
*Sheri Rusnak*  
*Molly Mraz*  
*Brian Schaff*  
*Taylor VanTassell*

***Congratulations!***

### A Family Perspective

The Passion of Jesus makes it clear, no one escapes suffering. Suffering is inevitable, but no one should suffer alone. That is one of the primary roles of families, to stand with and support each other in suffering.





**Palm Sunday, March 28, Mass Schedule:** 5:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass;  
Sunday Masses at 7:00 AM; 9:00 AM and Noon.

**Chrism Mass, Monday, March 29,** at 1:00 PM live-streamed from St. Peter Cathedral

**8:00 AM Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at St. Gregory Church**

**Holy Thursday, April 1, Mass at 7:00 PM at St. Gregory Church.**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 10:00 PM in the Church**

All are welcome to visit with the Lord during this special time. This period of quiet and meditation reminds us of Jesus' journey from the celebration of the Last Supper to the garden.

**Good Friday, April 2, 12 Noon North East Area Council of Churches**  
**Ecumenical Good Friday Service at St. Gregory Church**

**2:00 PM Commemoration of the Lord's Passion with Holy Communion**  
**at St. Gregory Church**

**Holy Saturday, April 3, Blessing of Easter Foods 12:00-12:30 PM**

This will be a "please remain in your car" event. Pull car up near the Southwest entrance of the church building. Fr. Tom or Deacon Rick will come to the car and bless your Easter Foods. You may then proceed out onto South Pearl Street as you go home and prepare to celebrate. Thank you!

**Easter Vigil Mass at 8:30 PM**

**Easter Sunday, April 4, Mass schedule: 7:30 AM; 9:00 AM; 10:30 AM and Noon**

## HOLY WEEK

### At Home

We are mindful that many of our families are not yet comfortable returning to Mass in-person. However, our homebound households are still valued members of our parish community.

We look forward to celebrating Mass together in-person whenever it is safe for everyone to return. In the meantime, St. Gregory Parish wants to support the faith lives of all our parishioners, near and far, during this sacred time in our Church's liturgical year.

Starting on Palm Sunday, the diocesan Office of Faith Formation will be sharing a slate of prayers, video reflections, and family activities for Holy Week at the website listed below. These activities are designed particularly with the needs of homebound families in mind, but they are open to everyone. The website will include prayer resources relevant to all ages, including people who live alone and young families.

Have a blessed Holy Week.

<https://www.eriecd.org/holyweekathome.html>



### CRUSADE FOR KIDS AUCTION

Saint Gregory School hosts an annual live auction every year in the spring. This event serves as the school's major fundraiser. Last year, due to circumstances, we held an online auction in August.

This year the plan is to hold an online auction the week of **April 26th – May 2nd**.

Additional details regarding viewing and logging on to the auction will be published closer to the date of the auction. Thank you, in advance, for any help that you are able to offer to St. Gregory Parish School.

### Faith Formation

**March 28th:** Palm Sunday, No Faith Formation

**April 4th:** Easter Sunday, No Faith Formation

For questions contact Jen Humes at 814-450-6533 or email her at [jhumes@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhumes@roadrunner.com)

### Child Abuse and Creating Safe Environments

Reporting known or suspected child abuse is everyone's responsibility: It is every adult's moral responsibility to report known or suspected abuse or neglect of a minor to the responsible authorities. Sexual abuse of minors is a pervasive societal problem, and only concerted and sustained efforts by all adults in every segment of society can help to protect children and youth. In the current Pennsylvania state report there were 5,202 substantiated reports of child abuse in Pennsylvania during 2019. 2,087 or 40% of the substantiated reports were for sexual abuse, 1, 448 were physical abuse. *To report suspected abuse of a minor, call Childline at 1-800-932-0323 (anytime 24/7). For particular questions on reporting abuse you may call: Cindy Zemcik, Coordinator for the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth in the Diocese of Erie at 814-824-1195.*

### CSA 2021



**First goal: \$60,000.00**  
**Parish Goal: \$120,000.00**

**Great News!** We now have \$92,265.00 pledged towards the annual CSA.

**This means that the heating unit in the school is covered and that every dollar now raised can go towards the replacement of our chapel roof.**

**It takes all of us, working together, to achieve success! Please try to make your pledge by Easter Sunday, if possible.**

**Thank you and God bless you for doing the best you can as part of the Parish Family!**

**Families Pledged: 151**  
**Amount Pledged: \$92,265.00**  
**Paid to date: \$66,625.00**



### *A Note From the Parish Prayer Line...*

Our prayer for the St. Gregory Parish Family:

*May the glory and the promise of this Easter Season bring you peace and happiness.*

*May our Risen Lord and Savior always be by your side to bless you and be your loving guide.*

*Happy Easter!*



**MONDAY, March 29**

8:00 AM– Richard Turri-Knights of Columbus

**TUESDAY, March 30**

8:00 AM– Ruth Ann Keeley– Dan & Ann Keeley

**WEDNESDAY, March 31**

8:00 AM –Kathryn Cawley– Knights of Columbus

**HOLY THURSDAY, April 1**

7:00 PM– All Parishioners Living & Deceased

**GOOD FRIDAY, April 2**

Noon– Ecumenical Service

2:00 PM Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 3**

8:30 PM– All Parishioners Living & Deceased

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 4**

7:30 AM-Jack Bronson-Greg & Carm Beardsley

9:00 AM-Ethel Geiger– Allen & Mary Demmick

10:30 AM-Robert Riefstahl– St. Gregory Marriage Encounter Group

Noon– Jeremy Byrnes-Timothy Byrnes Family

*The Parish Office will be closed Good Friday and Easter Monday.*

WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION	
March 20/21, 2021	
Envelopes Mailed.....	596
Regular Envelopes Used .....	95
Amount in Adult's Envelopes.....	\$6,207.00
Loose .....	\$204.00
Building Maintenance .....	\$405.00
Easter Flowers .....	\$595.00
Electronic Giving .....	\$603.30
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>..\$8,014.30</b>
Fiscal year-to-date offertory collection.....	\$299,606.34
Fiscal year-to-date offertory budget.....	\$292,307.78

**Good Friday, April 2,**  
**North East Council of Churches Ecumenical Service**  
**Noon at St. Gregory Church**



**Holy Saturday, April 3,**  
**Blessing of Easter Foods**  
**12:00-12:30 PM**  
 This will be a “please remain in your car” event. Pull car up near the Southwest entrance of the church building. Fr. Tom or Deacon Rick will come to the car and bless your Easter Foods/Baskets. You may then proceed out onto South Pearl Street as you go home and prepare to celebrate. Thank you!



The SANCTUARY LAMP is burning this week in honor of  
**The Blessed Sacrament**  
 and in memory of  
**Helen Nicastro**  
 by Jo Malta



**THE CROSS**  
 We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered.  
*—Entrance Antiphon, Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper, The Roman Missal*

**St. Gregory Church Membership Form** (Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Parish Office)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

New Registration  
 Change of Address  
 Moving out of Parish  
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